



Community Grant Program Rewards Groups Who Buy BC

For Immediate Release

Vancouver, B.C. – Tire Stewardship BC (TSBC), the association responsible for managing the provincial scrap tire-recycling program, is now accepting applications for its third annual Community Grant Program.

The Community Grant Program provides matching funds, up to a maximum of \$20,000, for BC not-for-profit organizations, schools and municipalities etc that use BC recycled rubber in their projects. The closing date for applications is April 29, 2011.

The majority of tires collected under TSBC's recycling program are recycled into consumer and industrial products, providing employment and economic benefits right here at home. In addition, recycled rubber products provide numerous environmental benefits, may be eligible for credits under the LEED green building program, and when used in BC offer a reduced carbon footprint due to shorter transportation distances.

Some innovative products made from BC's scrap tires are:

- **Playground Surfaces** – The attractive surfaces are **completely wheelchair accessible** and provide **safety** by cushioning falls, allowing people of all ages and abilities to participate fully and experience the joy of physical activity and play.
- **Running Tracks** – Running tracks made from recycled rubber have been used in many recreational facilities throughout BC. One of the most significant advantages over other track surfaces is the **reduced stress** on a runner's legs.
- **Synthetic Turf Fields** – sports fields that use particles of crumb rubber as infill material, **increase the resiliency** of the field. These fields are also **cost efficient, low maintenance** and can be used in all weather conditions. The Synthetic Turf Council estimates that the total amount of synthetic turf installed in North America **conserves more than three billion gallons of water** each year.
- **Landscaping** – a new product being made in BC is coloured rubber mulch that can be used instead of traditional landscaping materials such as bark mulch or gravel. The rubber mulch looks good all year round, **doesn't fade** for up to 10 years, is **cost efficient requiring minimal maintenance** and doesn't blow away or compact. It is typically used around flowers and shrubs to **reduce weed growth, pesticide use and water consumption** – major environmental benefits!

To find out more information about tire recycling in BC, or to find out if your project qualifies for TSBC's grant funding, visit www.tsbc.ca and go to the News Corner section. By keeping tires out of our local landfills, recycled tires are finding their way back into communities in British Columbia in many innovative and useful ways.

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Tire Stewardship BC (TSBC) is a not-for-profit society formed to accept responsibility for the provincial scrap-tire recycling program. TSBC submitted its Stewardship Plan to the Ministry on August 17, 2006. Ministry approval was received on September 19, 2006. On January 1, 2007 TSBC launched the new scrap-tire recycling program replacing the government-run program that had been in place since 1991. Visit www.tsbc.ca for more information.

Reference:

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